

The Emergency Committee for
Adams School
1807 19th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

Dear Mr. Hobson,

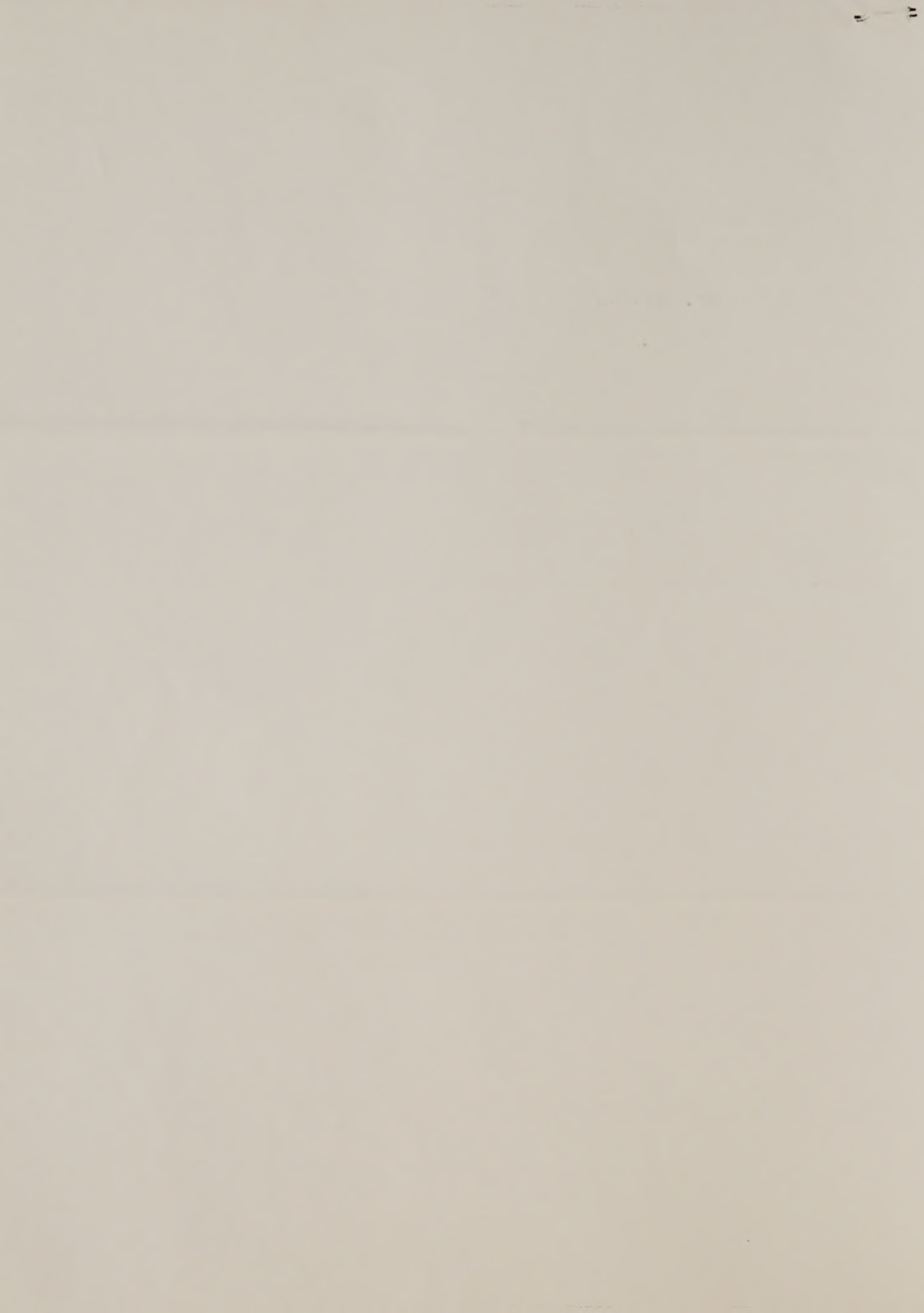
As you know the question of community control for Adams School will be on the agenda for the School Board meeting on June 18, 1969. We would like to take this opportunity to clarify our position on this matter and to solicit your support for this vitally needed action.

The Emergency Committee has attempted for an entire school year to seek solutions to what we believe to be grave problems at Adams School. Today, several months after our initial public declaration of our concerns we have not seen any move on the part of school administration to take positive steps to come to grips with those problems. Because of this we have come to you, our elected school board.

We believe that conditions at Adams School, as at many schools in this city, are deplorable. We have publically charged that there is an air of repression at Adams which is not conducive to learning. We charged also that Adams is woefully understaffed and ill equipped. We further charge that children at Adams are denied access to new, stimulating and innovative approaches to learning. We feel that the school administration and the central administration are unresponsive to the wishes of parents and are, in fact, hostile to those parents who dare to question the efficacy of tradition - bound practices.

We have spent hours in conference with school administrators. We have begged, threatened, charged and counter-charged, only to be told a few weeks ago that there would be no changes at Adams in the coming year. We cannot accept this. Either the school board must allow us to attempt to solve some of the problems at Adams or we have no other recourse but to turn to the courts.

We have not asked anything unprecedented. We have not asked anything illegal. We want Adams School to become a community - controlled school in accordance with public pledges



by the D.C. School Board and its prior instructions to Supt. Manning. We have asked that Adams School be placed in the Special Projects Division so that an effective approach to the educational deficiencies at the school can be made. We further ask that an elected board of governors be set up at Adams, to allow concerned parents, community organization and citizens to exercise their right to decide the fate of our young people. We want to re-assume our responsibility to provide education for our children.

Our critics have said that we are trouble-makers. We answer that we did not create the conditions in the school. We have been accused of trying to destroy Adams. We answer that our children our pupils at Adams and we seek to improve rather than destroy their school environment.

We do not view community control as a panacea for all the ills of the school. Rather we see it as the first step necessary, in our present system, to guarantee that somebody will begin to look at the crisis situation in one school and that somebody will move to correct that crisis situation before too many more children are educationally and psychologically maimed.

Do we ask too much when we ask your support? Do you believe that the school administration has done all it can do to educate children in Washington? Do you believe that the community can and should attempt to solve some of the problems of the school? For the sake of our children, we beg you, to help us.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SUITE 610, 1825 K STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

"The greater part of what my neighbors call good, I believe in my soul to be bad and if I repent anything, it is very likely to be my good behavior. What demon possesses me that I behave so well?"

Henry David Thoreau

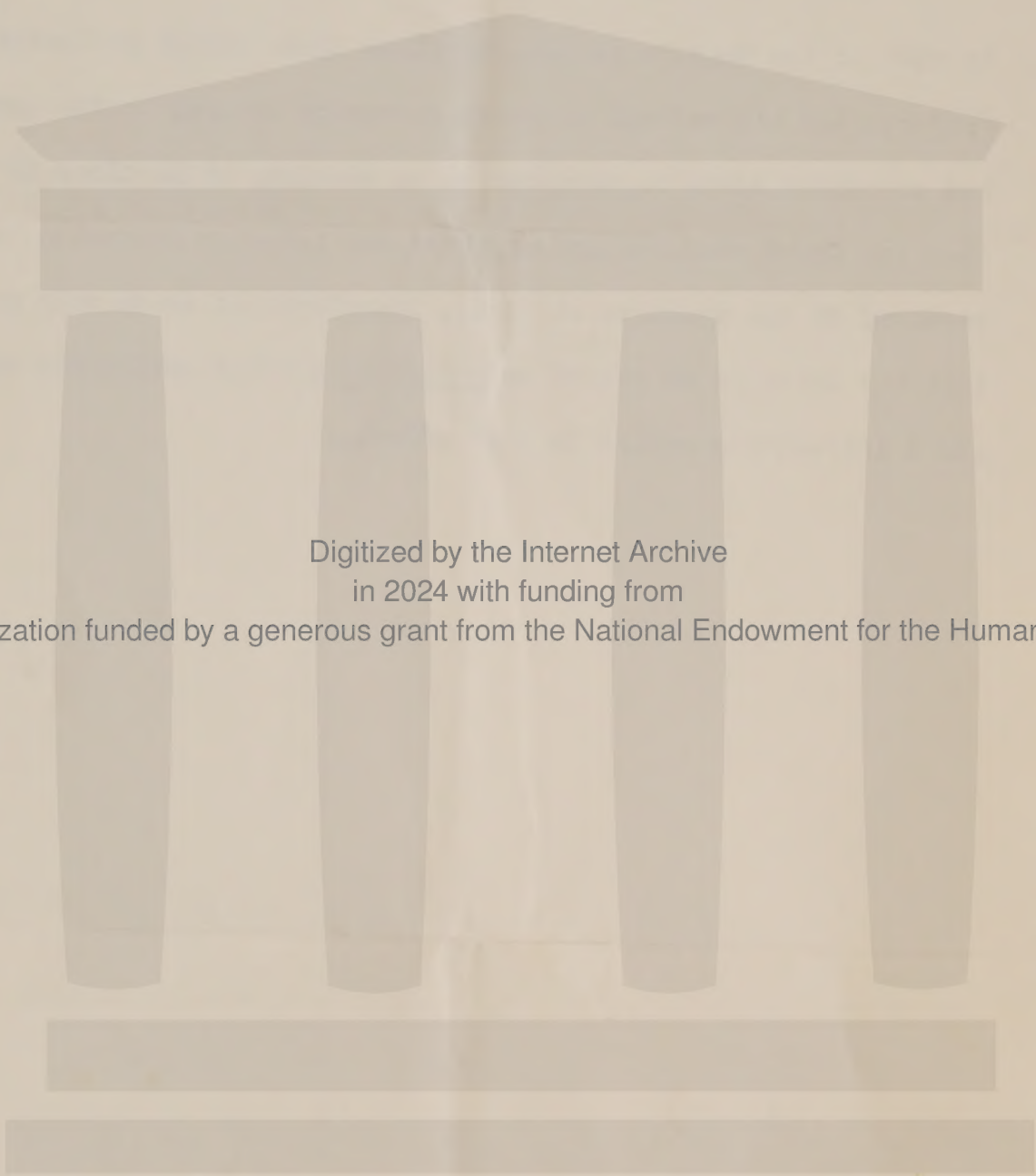
NEUTRAL POSITION IN THE AIR LINE
THE AIR LINE IS A LINE OF NEUTRALITY

The present part of the
airline will not, I believe
be of any value and it is
not likely, it is very
likely to be of any value.
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airline will not, I believe
be of any value and it is
not likely, it is very
likely to be of any value.

THE AIR LINE IS A LINE OF NEUTRALITY

For Mr. Hobson, a motion, if the Board votes down community control for Adams School . . .

In view of the Board's refusal to place Adams School in Special Projects and its refusal to grant community control to the parents and community Adams is supposed to be serving, it is clear to me that the Board condones and approves the inferior education being received by the children at Adams. Therefore, it seems only proper that the Board go on record as endorsing present conditions at Adams and I introduce a motion to that effect.



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R. D. # 1
Box 276
Gardiner, New York
12525

Mr. Julius W. Hobson
300 M Street S. W.
Apartment N 510
Washington, D. C. 20001

Dear Mr. Hobson:

At the present time I am writing a graduate paper concerning the Hobson vs Hansen Case for a course in New York State education law. I am especially interested in the portion of the decision which abolished the track system. On hand I have the Congressional Record of June 21 which gives a very detailed summary of the case.

Part of my assignment is to contact prominent figures such as yourself who were actively involved in this decision.

I would greatly appreciate a brief response from you indicating your personal feelings about the decision and your expectations as to how the decision abolishing the track system will effect the education of the disadvantaged in the future.

Congratulations on your victory. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Grant F. Trowbridge

Grant F. Trowbridge

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

DD

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International
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The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

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JULIUS HOBSON, DLR IMMY, DLY 75

300 M ST SOUTHWEST APT 510 WASHDC

THE PTA OF THE ADAMS SCHOOL IS ON RECORD AS HAVING VOTED AGAINST
THE COMMUNITY SCHOOL IDEA BEING INSTITUTED AT THE ADAMS SCHOOL
STOP THIS WAS UNANIMOUSLY VOTED IN AN OPEN PTA MEETING STOP
WE HAVE A PAID MEMBERSHIP OF ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY

SOLOMON SHEPARD PRESIDENT PTA

(1055).

D- 6253

Notice of Motion to Intervene

TO:

Please take notice that I, the undersigned Julius W. Hobson, by and through, my attorney, will move the United States District Court for the District of Columbia at the United States Court House, Washington, D. C., on the day of April, 1970, at ten (10) o'clock in the forenoon of that day, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard, for an order allowing me, pursuant to Rule 24 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, to intervene and become a party herein and to file such pleadings, present such evidence and make such arguments as may be necessary to represent my position in this action, styled Tate versus Laird, Civ. No. 459-70.

April , 1970

Julius W. Hobson
162 G Street, S. W.
Washington, D. C.

Attorney for Applicant
Joseph L. Gibson, Esq.
1608 20th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20009

Mr. Julius W. Hobson
Member of Board of Education
415 12th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hobson:

I believe that you are sincere in helping the public school children of the District of Columbia. That is why I am addressing this letter to you.

For too long, I have sat back and watched many unjust things done to the students of Dunbar, hoping that things would change. For too long, I have watched the downtown administration reassign inefficient, neurotic, temporary teachers who were not good for our students and who have done all types of things to upset the school's program after the principal had made known to the assistant superintendent the problems involved, and was ignored. Ask him and he can name at least 3 who are on the faculty now. For too long, I have watched equipment such as tape recorders and overhead projectors taken from a classroom teacher and transferred elsewhere, leaving a severe shortage. On one occasion we were told in faculty meeting that a multilith printer (the only one) had been taken from the students in the print shop and transferred to the basement of Franklin School by order of the superintendent and over the protests of the principal. It was replaced several years later. For too long, I have seen strong, and effective teachers transferred out and replaced with inexperienced, inefficient bodies. The Teachers' Union has become a haven for these teachers and Dunbar is getting more than its share. For too long, I have seen strong assistant principals transferred out and replaced by neurotic, lazy ones who were pawned off to Dunbar because they had problems in other schools. All of this, mind you, hurts the Dunbar student.

Going back to the fall of 1967 - Mr. Vincent Reed, a strong, effective and respected assistant principal was transferred from Dunbar to Wilson. In his place came Mr. William Carpenter from the Spingarn STAY program (well known by the administration to be a failure). We were told that Mr. Koontz wanted to integrate the administration at Wilson. If this were true, why didn't they transfer Mr. Carpenter to Wilson instead of Mr. Reed. Because they wanted Wilson to have the best, that's why. I must add here that Mr. Reed was quite upset when he went home and found the transfer letter in his mail. He said he called the principal and the principal didn't know anything about it. According to the principal when he announced that Mr. Reed was leaving, he had not been able to get a reason from Mr. Koontz as to why the transfer was made. So therefore, the Dunbar faculty and student body were left in the dark as to why they were losing Mr. Reed, and that's the way it stood. The student unrest was calmed by the principal.

In the fall of 1968, Mrs. Bertha Baylor, assistant principal was promoted to Principal of McFarland ~~in~~ Junior High. Instead of Dunbar getting a replacement from the list, in came Mrs. Lois Proctor, a transferee from Western. We were never told why and the principal said that he had tried in vain to find out.

The principal was out of the building most of time negotiating for the new teachers' union contract. Teachers and students alike found that they had no one to go to for assistance.

On several occasions cut slips were taken to Mrs. Proctor by teachers and she said and I quote "Take it back, I don't want it, she didnt' cut my class, she cut yours" Teachers and other employees and students were embarassed by her in front of visitors as well as in front of other faculty members and the student body. A letter from the

the teachers' aides to the principal, a copy of which was sent to the secondary office, complained of many things involving Mrs. Proctor. Their office was next to hers and she kept them so upset that it was ~~x~~ visible to everyone.

Mr. Carpenter refused to discipline because he said that it was unfair to the boys ~~to~~ when the girls were getting away with whatever they wanted. Girls held ~~xxx~~ regular card games in the lavatories and ~~xxx~~ smoked openly in the building. When Mrs. Proctor was called to check, she would make remarks like "they are no worse here than at Western" or "no point in sending them home, that's where they want to go anyway". She also refused to discuss tardy cases and just about anything else that a teacher ~~want~~ to her for. The boys held a dice game in the armory daily. Mr. Carpenter many times could not be found and sometimes would go in the opposite direction when he sensed a problem. I've even seen him stand back and watch trouble brewing and did nothing except glorify in it. Most any faculty member can verify this.

The assistant principals didn't seem to care and the teachers were ~~xxx~~ taking on the same attitude. A committee of teachers in desperation wrote letters to the administration requesting a third assistant principal with a discouraging response from Mr. Koontz. Finally, we were granted a 3rd assistant principal under the Title I program, Mrs. Phyllis Beckwith who came to Dunbar in December. Immediately, she went to work to gain the confidence and respect of faculty and students and immediately ~~things~~ things started ~~changing~~ changing at Dunbar. Working closely with the principal, they attacked the problems and solved them one by one. Once ~~again~~ again, Dunbar was a school of learning, with a reasonable thinking student body. The impact was so great as to be unbelievable - and then out of the blue came notice that Mrs. Beckwith was to report to Eastern with hardly time to say goodbye - under a detail procedure with a Dunbar counselor, Mrs. Frankie Davis (not well-liked by the teachers and students) detailed into Mrs. Beckwith's position.

This is what I feel should be investigated, Mr. Hobson - #1 Mrs. Beckwith is an assistant principal hired and paid by Title I Funds, how can she work at Eastern, when it is not a Title I school. - #2 If there was a ~~x~~ vacancy at Eastern, why wasn't Mrs. Davis sent there? #3 Mrs. Proctor was a teacher at Eastern why couldn't she have been sent instead of Mrs. Beckwith? Why wasn't the principal of Dunbar notified in advance and his desires considered since he knew the Dunbar situation? And finally, Eastern had a vacancy, not Dunbar, so what is the justification for tampering with the Dunbar staff? Furthermore, Mr. Rhodes has been out of town since the dirty work was done and no one at Dunbar has been able to get in touch with him. The Dunbar principal has not been given any reason at all for the action ~~xxx~~ so therefore, the faculty and students are again in the dark.

I feel that an investigation should be made of the administration's policies on "details" and "transfers" - a justification for upsetting the staffs of several schools unnecessarily. I feel that the principal should ~~not~~ be notified in advance and that his suggestions and comments should be considered, since he is the person in the situation and the administrators down town are not.

I feel that an investigation should be made of Title I funds and Impact Aid Funds, whether any of these funds are going into the "WISE" ~~xxx~~ program. Mr. Koontz has stated publicly that he would take from these funds to make the "WISE" ~~xxx~~ program go.

I am leaving the school system soon for other employment but I cannot live with my conscious without making you aware of some of the injustices done to Dunbar High School students. I cannot reveal my name because it might ~~effect~~ affect my future employment. But you do not need to know my name because all of the things I've mentioned are a matter of record.

A DUNBAR FACULTY MEMBER

cc: The Evening Star

Attorney Charles L. Fishman

Re: Birney Elementary School case--

1. There is no obligation on the part of teachers to join the PTA; but there is pressure.

2. Names of teachers who did not leave but who did receive reprimands:

Mr. William Johnson

Miss Rose Matthews

Mr. Alvin Parrish

3. Names of teachers who left, but who did not receive reprimands:

Mrs. Geraldine Slaughter

Miss Rita Robinson

4. The name of the woman teacher who is going to join me as plaintiff in this case :

Mrs. Cannis Hull

NOTE: Look carefully at that information written by Mrs. Hull which includes names of persons who received reprimands who should not have received them, and the names of those who did not receive them but should have received them.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

JULIUS W. HOBSON, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS A)
MEMBER OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA)
BOARD OF EDUCATION)

CANNIS HULL)
700 7th STREET, S. W.)
WASHINGTON, D. C.)

PLAINTIFFS)

v.)

WILLIAM R. MANNING, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS)
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS FOR THE)
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA)
415 12th STREET, N. W.)
WASHINGTON, D. C.)

JAMES E. COATES, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS)
PRESIDENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA)
BOARD OF EDUCATION)
415 12th STREET, N. W.)
WASHINGTON, D. C.)

DEFENDANTS)

CIVIL ACTION
NO. _____

MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

Comes now plaintiffs, by and through counsel, and moves this Honorable Court to grant a preliminary injunction to restrain defendants from imposing any punishment upon plaintiff Hull or the members of the class she represents and from further using, in any manner, the letters of reprimand described in the above captioned cause and from further refusing to rescind the said letters of reprimand until such time as defendants have conducted a full due process adversary hearing with respect to the issues raised herein and as reasons therefore state:

(1) The District Court has jurisdiction in this cause pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § - § 1331, 2201 and 2202 and District of Columbia Code (1967) § 11-521 and 28 U.S.C. § 1343.

(2) Plaintiff, Cannis Hull, and other members of the class she represents have been punished and are being punished as a result of a letter of reprimand from the defendants, which punishment was administered without due process of law as is more fully set forth in the complaint filed herein.

(3) The imposition and continuation of the said punishment without first according plaintiff and the members of the class she represents a due process adversary hearing is a continuing and substantial unjustified and illegal interference with the livelihood and liberties of the plaintiff, Cannis Hull, and the class she represents as protected by the First and Fifth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

(4) The activities of defendants are causing and will continue to cause immediate and irreparable harm and injury to the plaintiff, Hull, and the class she represents.

(5) The activities of defendants are subjecting and will continue to subject plaintiff Hobson and others similarly situated to the possibility of a civil suit for damages.

WHEREFORE, plaintiffs respectfully pray that this Honorable Court issue a preliminary injunction restraining defendants from any further use of the aforesaid letters of reprimand or from further refusing to revoke the aforesaid letters of reprimand until such time as defendants have conducted a full due process adversary hearing with respect to the issues raised herein.

Herbert O. Reid
Charles L. Fishman
Counsel for Plaintiffs
Howard University School of Law
Washington, D. C.
797-1395

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

JULIUS W. HOBSON, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS A)
MEMBER OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA)
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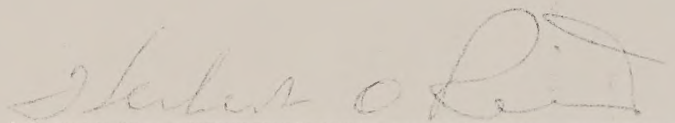
MOTION TO TAKE DEPOSITIONS OR INTERROGATORIES AND TO
EXAMINE RECORDS WITHIN 20 DAYS FROM COMMENCEMENT OF
SUIT PURSUANT TO RULE 26 OF THE FEDERAL RULES OF
CIVIL PROCEDURE

Come now plaintiffs, by and through counsel, and moves
this Honorable Court for leave to take depositions or interroga-
tories and to examine records pursuant to Rule 26 of the Federal
Rules of Civil Procedure within 20 days from commencement of
this cause and as reasons therefor state:

1. Plaintiffs are seeking a preliminary injunction in the above
captioned cause and in preparation for the hearing on the motion
thereon need to ascertain facts within the exclusive knowledge
of defendants.

2. In preparation for the aforesaid hearing plaintiffs are also in need of examining official books and records within the exclusive possession of the defendants as officers of the District of Columbia School system.
3. The information plaintiffs seek will aid and assist this Court in resolving the serious and substantial questions raised by the complaint filed herein.
4. Defendants will not suffer any harm if this motion is granted.

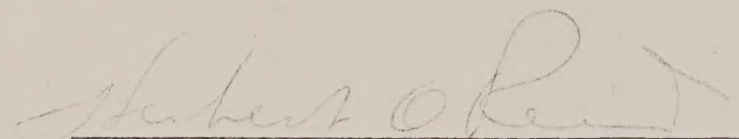
WHEREFORE, plaintiffs respectfully request that this Honorable Court grant the above captioned motion and allow plaintiffs to take depositions or interrogatories and to examine records prior to the Court's hearing on plaintiffs motion for a preliminary hearing.



Herbert O. Reid
Charles L. Fishman
Counsel for Plaintiffs
Howard University School of Law
Washington, D. C. 20001
797-1395

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that sufficient copies of the above captioned motion were delivered to the United States Marshall for the District of Columbia for service upon all defendants together with the complaint and motion for a preliminary injunction filed herein on this 10th day of June, 1969.



Herbert O. Reid
Counsel for Plaintiffs

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

JULIUS W. HOBSON, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS A)
MEMBER OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA)
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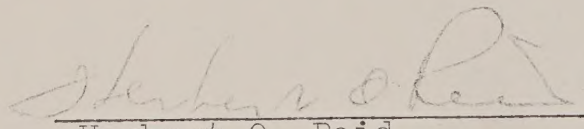
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DEFENDANTS)

POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY
INJUNCTION

1. The verified complaint filed herein.
2. 28 U.S.C. § 1331, 2201, 2202, and 1343.
3. D. C. Code (1967) § 11-521.


Herbert O. Reid
Charles L. Fishman
Counsel for Plaintiffs
Howard University School of Law
Washington, D. C. 20001
797-1395

